

REMARKS

Please reconsider the application in view of the above amendments and the following remarks. Applicant thanks the Examiner for carefully considering this application.

Disposition of Claims

Claims 25-49 are pending in this application. Claim 25 is independent. The remaining claims depend, directly or indirectly, from claim 25. Applicant notes that although the Office Action of February 9, 2007, indicates the state of claims 1-24 as withdrawn, these claims were cancelled in the Response to the Office Action of October 27, 2006.

Rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C. §102

Claims 25 and 26 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2001/0022477 (hereinafter "Ishida"). The rejection is respectfully traversed.

The present invention is directed to a polyphased rotating electrical machine, such as an alternator. In one or more embodiments of the invention, the polyphased rotating electrical machine includes a plurality of phase outputs which are connected to a phase connector for connection to an external electronic module. A cover is configured to support the phase connector, which may thus allow easy access to the phase outputs.

Accordingly, claim 25 requires a polyphased rotating electrical machine having an outer frame including a rear bearing, a cover configured to be mounted on the rear bearing, a polyphased wound stator having a plurality of phase outputs, and *a phase connector configured to connect to the plurality of phase outputs and configured to connect to an exterior electronic module, wherein the cover is configured to support the phase connector.*

Ishida is directed to an AC generator for a vehicle. However, Ishida fails to show or suggest at least a phase connector configured to connect to the plurality of phase outputs and configured to connect to an exterior electronic module. In one or more embodiments of the present invention, the phase outputs are carried to an *exterior* electronic module containing, for example, a rectifier. As it may be very impractical to run cables from a stator to the electronic module, the phase connector may be provided as an intermediary.

In contrast, Ishida discloses that the phase outputs are carried directly from the stator winding 21 to a rectifier 5 located underneath the cover 6 of the AC generator. That is, the phase outputs are not carried to an exterior device, but to an internal device. Furthermore, it would be clear to those skilled in the art that the rectifier 5, which is located underneath the cover 6, does not show or suggest an *exterior* electronic module. Even further, Ishida is completely silent regarding an exterior electronic module. Accordingly, those skilled in the art would recognize that Ishida fails to show or suggest at least a phase connector configured to connect to the plurality of phase outputs and configured to connect to an exterior electronic module.

Additionally, Ishida fails to show or suggest at least that the cover is configured to support the phase connector. As shown above, because Ishida discloses the phase outputs of the stator winding 21 are connected to the rectifier 5 *located underneath the cover 6*, Ishida fails to show or suggest the claimed phase connector. However, assuming, *arguendo*, that a phase connector disposed between the stator 21 and the rectifier 5 suggests the claimed phase connector, Ishida still fails to show or suggest that the cover is configured to support the phase connector. Both the stator 21 and the rectifier 5 are located underneath the cover 6 of the AC generator. Thus, one skilled in the art would recognize that a phase connector between the two would also be disposed underneath the cover 6, and, thus, is not *supported* by the cover.

Accordingly, it would be clear to those skilled in the art that Ishida fails to show or suggest that the cover is configured to *support* the phase connector.

In view of the above, Ishida fails to show or suggest the claimed invention as recited in independent claim 25. Thus, claim 25 is patentable over Ishida. Dependent claims are patentable for at least the same reasons. Accordingly, withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

Rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C. §103

Claims 27-45 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being obvious over Ishida in view of U.S. Patent Application Publication 2004/0256928 (hereinafter “Kondo”). The rejection is respectfully traversed.

As shown above, Ishida fails to show or suggest all limitations recited in independent claim 25. Furthermore, Kondo fails to show or suggest that which Ishida lacks with respect to claim 25. Specifically, Kondo fails to show or suggest at least a phase connector configured to connect to the plurality of phase outputs and configured to connect to an exterior electronic module, wherein the cover is configured to support the phase connector. Thus, claim 25 is patentable over Ishida and Kondo, whether considered separately or in combination. Claims 27-45 depend, directly or indirectly, from claim 25, and, thus, are patentable for at least the same reasons. Accordingly, withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

Conclusion

Applicant believes this reply is fully responsive to all outstanding issues and places this application in condition for allowance. If this belief is incorrect, or other issues arise, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned or his associates at the telephone number listed below. Please apply any charges not covered, or any credits, to Deposit Account 50-0591 (Reference Number 17170/010001).

Dated: April 9, 2007

Respectfully submitted,

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